

Remarks

Claim 1 has been amended by combining claim 2 with claim 1 and a new claim 5 has been added dependent upon claim 1.

The rejection of claims 1, 2 and 4, under 35 USC 103(a) is respectfully traversed.

The rejection of claim 2 is moot with claim 2 added to claim 1.

In claim 1, it is now clear that the control signal is a shutdown signal which shuts down the internal circuit and that the control signal is delayed by the digital delay circuit. The Examiner's allegation that control signal 143 in the cited reference Heithoff corresponds to the control shutdown signal in claim 1, is respectfully disagreed with. Both Figs.1 and 3 of Heithoff clearly show that the CSD control signal 143 is not delayed by the delay circuit 147. Instead, the delay circuit 147 in Heithoff delays the output control signal 131 of the comparator 130 as explained in Col. 4, lines 42-45 of Heithoff. Therefore, the Examiner's conclusion that the CSD control signal 143 in Heithoff is delayed by a digital delay circuit and corresponds to the shutdown control signal of claim 1 is incorrect and not supported in the specification of Heithoff. Col. 4, lines 42-45 of Heithoff states that "the comparator 130 compares these two reference voltages 141, 133 and provides output control signal 131 based on the comparison to the delay circuit 147".

Accordingly, Heithoff does not teach a digital delay circuit for delaying the shutoff signal. As such, even if Heithoff and Papopoulos are combined the circuit would not operate as claimed in claim 1.

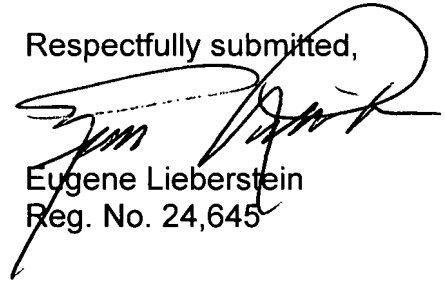
Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and is believed patentable for the same reasons as given above.

The same is true for claims 4 and 5 which depend from claim 1.

Reconsideration in allowance of claims 1 and 3-5 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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